1.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for processing a first type of program having both audio and video content and a second type of program having audio-only content, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising:

memory means for storing display information representing an animated image;

means for selecting a program;

control means for determining ~~whether~~ a type of program of the selected program ~~is the first type of program having both audio and video content or the second type of program having audio-only content~~; and based on the determining, if the selected program is the first type of program, the control means causes ~~the~~ playing of the audio content and displaying of the video content associated with the selected program ~~when the selected program is a first type of program~~ and based on the determining, if the selected program is the second type of program causes ~~the~~ playing of the audio-only content associated with the selected program and displaying of the stored animated image ~~when the selected program is a second type of program~~.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~the control means determines~~ the type of program is based on program guide information received.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein program guide information is displayed along with the animated image.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the animated image serves as a screen saver.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for processing a first type of program having both audio and video content and a second type of program having audio-only content, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising:

memory means for storing display information representing an animated image;

user control means for selecting ~~a first and a second mode~~ an animated feature;

control means for determining ~~whether~~ a type of program of a selected program ~~is the first type of program having both audio and video content or the second type of program having audio-only content~~; and

the control means causes, when the selected program is determined to be the ~~a~~ first type of program, ~~the~~ playing of the audio content and displaying of the video content associated with the selected program; and causes, when the selected program is ~~a~~ the second type of program and the animated feature has been selected, ~~in the first mode, the~~ playing of the audio-only content associated with the selected program and displaying of the stored animated image, or ~~and in the second mode, the~~ playing of the audio-only content associated with the selected program and displaying of a static screen when the animated feature is not selected.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the static screen is a blank screen.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the static screen is a blue screen.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein ~~the control means determines~~ the type of program is based on program guide information received.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for processing a first type of program having both audio and video content and a second type of program having audio-only content, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising the steps of:

storing display information representing an animated image;

determining ~~whether~~ a type of program of a selected program ~~is the first type of program having both audio and video content or the second type of program having audio-only content~~;

causing ~~the~~ playing of the audio content and displaying of the video content associated with the selected program when ~~the selected~~ type of program is determined in the determining step to be the ~~a~~ first type of program; and

causing ~~the~~ playing of the audio-only content associated with the selected program and displaying of the stored animated image when the ~~selected~~ type of program is determined in the determining step to be the ~~a~~ second type of program.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9, wherein the ~~determining step~~ type of program is based on program guide information received.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of displaying program guide information along with the animated image.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for processing a first type of program having both audio and video content and a second type of program having audio-only content, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising the steps of:

storing display information representing an animated image;

~~selecting a first and a second mode;~~

determining whether an animated feature has been selected; and

determining ~~whether~~ a type of program of a selected program ~~is the first type of program having both audio and video content or the second type of program having audio-only content~~;

if the type of program is determined as the first type of program, causing~~,~~ ~~when the selected program is a first type of program, the~~ playing of the audio content and displaying of the video content associated with the selected program;

and ~~and~~ if the type of program is determined as the second type of program and the animated feature has been selected, causing, ~~when the selected program is a second type of program, in the first mode,~~ playing of the audio-only content associated with the selected program and displaying of the animated image~~, and in the second mode, playing of the audio-only content and displaying of a static screen~~; and

if the type of program is determined as the second type of program and the animated feature has not been selected, causing playing of the audio-only content associated with the selected program and displaying of a static screen.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 12, wherein the static screen is a blank screen.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 12, wherein the static screen is a blue screen.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~apparatus~~ method of claim 12, wherein the type of program ~~determining step~~ is based on program guide information received.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~apparatus~~ method of claim 12, wherein the animated image serves as a screen saver.